



DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION'S Economic Sustainability Plan Framework Study

Community Meeting Summary - Round One

September 18, 2010 - Rio Vista (City Hall) - 1 Main Street - 10-12:00 p.m.

The following meeting summary was from the third of five community meetings scheduled in the Delta to gather public input on the creation of the framework for the upcoming Economic Sustainability Plan (ESP). The Delta Protection Commission will complete the ESP by July 2011. The adopted plan will include information and recommendations that will be used for future planning efforts, including the Delta Stewardship Council's policies regarding the socioeconomic sustainability of the Delta region. The ESP will address multiple issues relating to the Delta's economic sustainability, including public safety and flood protection, recreation and tourism, agriculture and business, and infrastructure.

OVERVIEW

The community meeting was held in Rio Vista on Saturday, September 18, 2010 from 10-12:00 p.m. Approximately 25 community members attended the meeting. DPC Staff and Commissioners Jan Vick and Mike Reagan were in attendance, along with the ESP Framework planning team.

PRESENTATION

Commissioner Vick, Mike Machado, Matt Kowta and Seann Rooney presented the project to the group, outlining past legislation (that calls for the preparation of the ESP) and the project timeline. Also reviewed were the role and history of the commission, the scope of the current planning effort and some preliminary economic data. The presentation was followed by a 45 minute discussion with participants. The discussion concluded and community members were encouraged to provide comments after the large group session. The event concluded at 11:45 a.m.

DISCUSSION

The following comments were offered during the large group discussion (and from one comment card):

- Declining water quality/fish population (striped bass) – will impact recreation
- Invasive species on the rise
- Limited access (launches, gates, etc.) to waterway is an issue
- Partnership with Ag needed (access) - what is the cost of re-use (e.g. Ag to recreation)?
- Delta is now a built environment- the future plan needs to address how (infrastructure and local economy) it is maintained/supported. Needs to allow for growth

(Notes - Continued)

- Opportunity for more recreation-type facilities on land near water (should be supported)
- Road network (even in remote locations) needs to be supported (because of use – Rec/AG/Tourism)
- More tourism venues (places to visit) should be supported/encouraged
- “Eyes on the road”- residential population needed (support services)
- Recreation figures seem low in the presentation (estimates)
- Two Gates project will impact Delta
- Need more camping, bed & breakfasts, restaurants, (services) that support boating/recreation
- Water legislation will impact recreation (what needs to be considered?)
- People need places to stop (docks, restaurants, etc..) and more access
- More sewage/waste pump facilities
- State Parks to continue to invest - difficult to measure recreation’s impact on economy
- Boat storage (\$\$ investment in community)
- Delta ecology center (focus on “science” of Delta)
- Explore identity (broader identity) - part of state promotions/marketing?
- Water quantity important to recreation (fishing)
- Fishing events critical to supporting Rio Vista
- Do other plans recognize/support (water quality)? Not same vision?
- Need higher pay/better local jobs (policies that support/allow/encourage)
- Multiple industries needed (diversity)
- Need to emphasize “relationship” between water and economy
- There are concerns about people accessing private lands (there are cost to this) - analyze costs to benefits of “access”
- Do we/will we create toxic assets and amenities that require “public” support (habitat). What is impact on Ag and others uses?
- Other interests are important to recognize - we have other interests that should be reviewed in context of greater good
- Mitigation - creation of habitat (cost to maintain/support) cost of plan when re-using land for habitat and not original use (Ag)
- Relationship between energy providers and community (to be studied)
- Essential to preserve “legacy” communities (many don’t have means to do so - e.g. levee maintenance)
- We need more state/federal jobs (multipliers)
- We are lacking economic study of Delta with reliable data
- Confirm cities/counties in data (who’s not in? Lathrop? Vacaville?)
- Where is data coming from? (census, COG’s...info being looked at that will/should breakdown between primary/secondary zones)
- Ag declining? Loss of acreage? Tough to compare output by sector. Apples too high/no grapes?
- Yolo/Solano County have UCD info
- PG&E lines running north/south through Delta (not just transmission, underground storage facilities)
- Recreation money tough to understand - multipliers (around the Delta)
- ESP cannot be out of context of BDCP and other studies (facilitate or constrain water out of Delta).

